

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 134367  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 H-02 INR-10 L-03  
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 MCE-00  
ACDA-12 EB-08 /076 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:PGSMITH:JJ  
APPROVED BY AF/E:RPOST  
PM/SAS:ASKOCHANEK (DRAFT)  
AF:RMMOOSE (DRAFT)  
-----125343 261333Z /75  
O 261327Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 134367

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, MASS, ZA, US

SUBJECT: US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ZAMBIA

REF: LUSAKA 1838

1. REPORTS CITED REFTEL APPARENTLY DERIVE FROM STATEMENT MADE BY PRESIDENT KAUNDA IN LOCALLY TELEVISED INTERVIEW WITH CARL ROWAN AIRED SATURDAY MAY 20 IN WHICH KAUNDA SAID THAT ZAMBIA HAD REQUESTED RPT REQUESTED ARMS FROM THE UNITED STATES. WHEN ASKED WHAT US RESPONSE HAD BEEN, KAUNDA DECLINED TO CHARACTERIZE IT. DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING TRANSCRIPT IN ORDER TO DETERMINE EXACT LANGUAGE, AND WILL CABLE IT UPON RECEIPT.

2. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN IN EXPECTATION THAT LUSAKA REPORTS WILL BE UNCLASSIFIED

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PICKED UP BY REUTER OR OTHER SERVICES. POST SHOULD DRAW ON THIS IN RESPONDING TO PRESS INQUIRIES:

Q. THERE WERE REPORTS MAY 24 IN THE ZAMBIAN PRESS THAT PRESIDENT KAUNDA WAS EITHER OFFERED OR REQUESTED U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. WHAT IS YOUR COMMENT?

A. THE TWO PRESIDENTS DISCUSSED THE FULL RANGE OF QUESTIONS INVOLVING RHODESIA, INCLUDING ZAMBIA'S SECURITY. IN THAT CONNECTION, THERE WAS A DISCUSSION OF ZAMBIA'S DEFENSIVE REQUIREMENTS, BUT NO COMMITMENTS WERE MADE. WE EXPECT THAT THERE WILL BE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (FMS) A PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION WOULD BE REQUIRED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014